

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a shared window for
2 entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can
3 be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a
4 remote computer system subject to access control, the method comprising:
5 receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer
6 system;
7 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
8 order to operate the local computer system;
9 passing the command through a filtering process;
10 if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on the
11 local computer system;
12 displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer
13 system so that a local user can view the command; and
14 allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared
15 window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the
16 command;
17 whereby permission to execute the command on the local computer system
18 is granted on a per-command basis.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the shared window is
2 in an approval mode, the filtering process involves:
3 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
4 command; and
5 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
6 filtering process.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in a view-only mode, allowing no commands received from the remote
3 user to pass the filtering process.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in an execute mode, allowing all commands received from the remote
3 user to pass the filtering process.

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1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode, allowing commands from a pre-specified list
3 of safe commands to pass the filtering process.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising, if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-
3 specified list of safe commands:

4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and

6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein commands from
2 different users appear in different colors on the shared window.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein allowing the command
2 to be displayed on the remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer
3 system involves sending an update for the shared window from the local computer
4 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a
2 second command from a second remote user on a second remote computer
3 system.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the filtering process
2 takes place on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the
2 form of character input.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the
2 form of an action applied to a graphical user interface.

1 13. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a
3 method for providing a shared window for entering commands into a local
4 computer system, wherein the shared window can be shared with a remote user
5 who can input data into the shared window from a remote computer system
6 subject to access control, the method comprising:
7 receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer
8 system;
9 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
10 order to operate the local computer system;
11 passing the command through a filtering process;

12 if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on the
13 local computer system;
14 displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer
15 system so that a local user can view the command; and
16 allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared
17 window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the
18 command;
19 whereby permission to execute the command on the local computer system
20 is granted on a per-command basis.

1 14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in an approval mode, the filtering process
3 involves:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a view-only mode, no commands received
3 from the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 16. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in an execute mode, all commands received from
3 the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 17. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-
3 specified list of safe commands are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 18. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 17,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not
3 from the pre-specified list of safe commands, the method further comprises:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 19. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein commands from different users appear in different colors on the shared
3 window.

1 20. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein allowing the command to be displayed on the remote copy of the shared
3 window on the remote computer system involves sending an update for the shared
4 window from the local computer system to the remote computer system, wherein
5 the update includes the command.

1 21. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the method further comprises receiving a second command from a second
3 remote user on a second remote computer system.

1 22. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the filtering process takes place on at least one of:

3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 23. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the command is in the form of character input.

AI 1 24. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the command is in the form of an action applied to a graphical user
3 interface.

1 25. (Currently amended) An apparatus that provides a shared window
2 for entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window
3 can be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from
4 a remote computer system subject to access control, the apparatus comprising:
5 a receiving mechanism that is configured to receive a command from the
6 remote user on the remote computer system;
7 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
8 order to operate the local computer system;
9 a filtering mechanism that is configured to pass the command through a
10 filtering process, and to execute the command on the local computer system if the
11 command passes the filtering process; and
12 a display mechanism that is configured to display the command on the
13 shared window on the local computer system so that a local user can view the
14 command;

15 wherein the display mechanism is configured to allow the command to be
16 displayed on a remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer system,
17 so that the remote user can view the command;
18 whereby permission to execute the command on the local computer system
19 is granted on a per-command basis.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared
2 window is in an approval mode, the filtering mechanism is configured to:
3 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the command;
4 and to
5 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves
6 the command.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared
2 window is in a view-only mode, no commands received from the remote user are
3 allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared
2 window is in an execute mode, all commands received from the remote user are
3 allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-specified list of safe
3 commands are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 30. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~25~~²⁹, wherein if the
2 shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-
3 specified list of safe commands, the filtering mechanism is configured to:

4 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the command;
5 and
6 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves
7 the command.

1 31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display
2 mechanism is configured to display commands from different users in different
3 colors on the shared window.

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1 32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display
2 mechanism is configured to send an update for the shared window from the local
3 computer system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the
4 command.

1 33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the receiving
2 mechanism is configured to receive a second command from a second remote user
3 on a second remote computer system.

1 34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the filtering
2 mechanism is located on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in
2 the form of character input.

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- 1 36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in
2 the form of an action applied to a graphical user interface.
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